

THE 2001 STATE BUDGET

RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

SECRETARY OF RESOURCES

The Resources Agency is responsible for stewardship, conservation management, and enhancement of California's natural resources including land, fish, wildlife, timber and minerals. There are 21 departments, commissions and conservancies within the Agency.

■ Major Provisions

The major provisions of the Secretary of Resources budget include:

- \$2.0 million to continue funding of the California Continuing Resources Investment Strategy Project (CCRISP), an effort to identify and inventory vital natural habitat within the State, and plan for future state investments.
- \$15.0 million for grants to expand key parcels of the State's river parkways, including \$1.0 million to facilitate the complete acquisition of the Chinatown Cornfields property in park-poor downtown Los Angeles.
- \$541.4 million (\$81.0 million General Fund) to various departments under the Resources Agency for the administration and implementation of the CALFED Bay Delta Program.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

The California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) administers state and federal clean air, clean water, hazardous waste, and solid waste programs to safeguard our environment and the public health.

■ Major Provisions

The major provisions of the California Environmental Protection Agency budget include:

- \$900,000 for the assistance to rural counties with their Certified Unified Program Agency programs.

ENERGY COMMISSION

The Energy Commission is responsible for encouraging efficient energy uses to assure a reliable energy supply. The commission is responsible for siting electric power plants, developing energy conservation standards, monitoring and forecasting energy supplies and usage, and for energy research and development. Other state agencies also play a role in energy regulation and supply, including the Public Utilities Commission, the new California Consumer Power and Conservation Financing Authority, the Electricity Oversight Board, the Independent System Operator and the power purchasing operations of the Department of Water Resources.

■ Major Provisions

The major provisions of the Energy Commission budget include:

- \$25.9 million for power plant siting workload, including an increase of \$7.8 million (General Fund).
- \$4.6 million for long-term baseload reduction, including customer characteristics surveys, and updating building energy efficiency standards.
- \$300,000 for preliminary plans for hydrogen fueling stations.
- \$69.6 million for electricity research, development and demonstration projects funded by utility-bill surcharge funds.
- \$1 million for solar energy grants.

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

The Department of Conservation protects public health and safety, ensures environmental quality, and supports the state's long-term viability in the use of California's earth resources. The Department provides policy direction, education, regulation and dissemination of information concerning agricultural and open space lands and soils; beverage container recycling; geology and seismology; and mineral, geothermal and petroleum resources.

■ Major Provisions

The major provisions of the Department of Conservation budget include:

- \$5.6 million to restore specific job training programs formerly within Corps, prior to significant budget cuts in the mid-1990's.
- \$9.7 million to advance existing Corps programs related weatherization and energy efficient rehabilitation of structures.
- \$2.6 million to address departmental infrastructure and deferred maintenance needs.

DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY AND FIRE PROTECTION

The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection provides fire protection services for range lands, timberlands, and lands owned by the state or private agencies. The Office of the Fire Marshal is responsible for protecting life and property from fire through the development of fire prevention regulations.

■ Major Provisions

The major provisions of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection budget include:

- \$6.6 million to fund projects intended to reduce the risk of losses due to wildfires.
- \$716,000 to continue State research relating to sustainable forestry in the state's demonstration forests.
- \$4.7 million for the Sudden Oak Death program.
- \$9.9 million to support fire protection activities by the department to meet the increased threat from forest fires to the State.

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

The Department of Fish and Game manages 800,000 acres of wildlife habitat, including 98 wildlife areas and 99 ecological preserves, holds conservation easements on another 102,000 acres, and regulates sport taking of fish and game.

■ Major Provision

The major provisions of the Department of Fish and Game budget include:

- \$9.5 million (\$6.5 million General Fund) to begin upgrading the Department's seriously inadequate computer systems and equipment.

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

The California Park system, the second largest in the nation, includes 265 parks on more than 1.3 million acres. Parks include beaches, wildlife areas, open spaces, off-highway vehicle areas, and historic sites. More than 70 million citizens annually use the 3,000 miles of trails, 18,000 campsites, 811 miles of lake, reservoir and river frontage, and 280 miles of coastline that are part of the system. California parks are a tourist destination, a regular part of the school curriculum, and a recreational haven for California residents.

■ Major Provisions

The major provisions of the Department of Parks and Recreation budget include:

- \$585 million in Park Bond funds, including \$37.5 million for the acquisition of the Cornfields property in Los Angeles' Chinatown.
- \$15 million for a new Urban Parks grant program to continue the investment in parks in poor neighborhoods.
- \$2 million for ongoing maintenance of the Department's Natural Resources.
- \$2.4 million for mid-size cities left out of the Roberti-Z'berg formula in the Park Bond Act of 2000.

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

The Department of Water Resources manages the state's agricultural, environmental, industrial and municipal waters including operation of the State Water Project. The department also provides flood control forecasting and assistance to local agencies, and coordinates state involvement in the CALFED Bay-Delta process.

■ Major Provisions

The major provisions of the Department of Water Resources budget include:

- \$10.5 million General Fund to implement recommendations of the Governor's drought panel.

- \$5 million for departmental development of the Water and Energy Efficiency Program.
- \$44 million to pay the State's costs of local flood control projects.
- \$22.2 million for support of the newly created California Energy Resource Scheduling (CERS) Program which has taken over the responsibility in the state for purchasing electricity on behalf of customers of the investor-owned utilities.
- \$541 million in expenditures, including \$81.0 million in General Fund proposals for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program. This program, while coordinated through the Department of Water Resources, is implemented by in seven state departments.

AIR RESOURCES BOARD

The Air Resources Board (ARB) has the primary responsibility for protecting air quality through regulatory and investment programs. This budget includes \$216.0 million (\$52.9 million General Fund) for support of the board.

■ Major Provisions

The major provisions of the Air Resources Board budget include:

- \$20 million for financial incentives for Zero Emission Vehicles.
- \$48 million augmentation for the Energy Crises/ Environmental Justice Air Emissions Program.
- \$16 million the Carl Moyer Program.
- \$16 million to continue the Board's school bus emission reduction program.
- \$16 million for local air district compliance and emission mitigation program to reduce emissions from standby diesel generators.

INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD

The California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) has the responsibility for addressing the state's solid waste management needs and assisting local governments in reducing solid waste.

■ Major Provision

The major provision of the Integrated Waste Management Board budget include:

- \$26 million for the Waste and Used Tire Program, including 9 positions for implementation.

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

The State Water Resources Control Board and the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards preserve and enhance the quality of California's water resources and assure their proper allocation and effective use.

■ Major Provision

The major provision of the State Water Resources Control Board budget include:

- Provides \$35.8 million (\$1.5 million General Fund) for the Clean Beaches Initiative including \$1.5 million for research to improve coastal water quality.

DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL

The Department of Toxic Substances Control protects public health and the environment by regulating hazardous waste management activities, overseeing or performing cleanup activities at sites contaminated with hazardous substances, encouraging pollution prevention and the development of environmentally protective technologies and providing regulatory assistance and public education.

■ Major Provisions

The major provisions of the Department of Toxic Substances Control budget include:

- \$114.5 million to settle with the Environmental Protection Agency to buy out the state's liability for the Stringfellow and Casmalia hazardous waste sites.

- \$ 2.1 million for the development of local guidelines and in field testing for hazard removal from drug labs.
- \$17 million redirection of funds appropriated last year for the Brownfields Urban Cleanup Insurance Program.

DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

The Department of Food and Agriculture promotes and protects the state's agriculture industry through marketing and industry inspections. The Department also develops California's agricultural policies, assures accurate weights and measures in commerce, and provides financial oversight to county, district, and citrus fairs.

■ Major Provisions

The major provisions of the Department of Food and Agriculture budget include:

- \$19.6 million proposed by the Governor in January for Pierce's Disease Control Program.
- \$12.4 million for the Comprehensive Pest Prevention Strategy proposed by the Governor in January.
- \$1.4 million for the Foreign Animal Disease program as proposed in May Revise.